

Introduction

The 2001 edition of the Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is a summary of data compiled from vital event records for the 2001 calendar year. The content of this report includes summaries of vital events such as live births, fetal deaths, abortions, deaths, marriages, and marriage dissolutions documented by certificates and reports filed with the Office of Vital Statistics, Center for Health and Environmental Statistics. Please note that in the 2001 edition of the Annual Summary selected county tables contain data summarized by population density peer groups. "Peer Groups" of counties, as used in this summary, are defined as those with similar population density. Counties in the same peer group will not necessarily have similar values for other indicators. The peer groups allow you to see how a county differs from others of the same size on a wide variety of indicators. Also noteworthy, causes of death for 2001 are classified using the International Classification of Disease, 10th Revision (ICD-10). Prior to 1999, Kansas used ICD-9 to report mortality statistics. A death table, designed by the National Center for Health Statistics, has also been added containing 39 selected causes of death. Kansas is now calculating age-adjusted death rates using the 2000 U.S. standard population. This will eliminate confusion and misunderstanding created by the use of various population standards. For more information on these topics, please see the [Technical Notes](#).

This document provides its users with an overview of the events contributing to the health status of Kansans. The facts contained in this report are essential for effective health policy decisions and program planning. It is designed to provide governmental agencies, businesses, industries, and citizens with information on vital statistics in Kansas.

Comments concerning the format or content of this report are welcomed. The Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is a **summary** of the health data collected by the State of Kansas on vital events. More detailed information is available upon request. The information contained in this report may be obtained electronically by contacting the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, Office of Health Care Information (785-296-5644) or e-mail ksommer@kdhe.state.ks.us. The Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is also available on the Internet at the KDHE home page on the World Wide Web. The address is: <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/hci/>. For copies of this report please call (785-296-8627).

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